



# Tech Info Library

## HyperCard: Why Compacting Sometimes Fails (7/92)

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TOPIC -----

When users set up a user-defined message inheritance path in HyperCard 2.0, and they try to compact their stacks, compacting fails. Why?

DISCUSSION -----

This happens because stacks cannot be compacted when the "start using" command is in use.

Here's a typical script showing a user-defined message inheritance path:

```
On OpenStack
  start using stack "XYZ"
end OpenStack
```

Now, here's a typical script for compacting stacks:

```
On Mouseup
  doMenu "Compact Stack"
end Mouseup
```

The compact stack script won't work, because the resources of stack "XYZ" are also in use as well.

Here's a "compact stack" handler that does work, and makes the user-definable mess academic:

```
On Mouseup
  stop using stack "XYZ"
  doMenu "Compact Stack"
  start using stack "XYZ"
end Mouseup
```

Here's a "bells and whistles" stack from Claris' "Tech Support Navigator" stack series, which pops text into the message box informing the user what's going on:

```
on mouseUp
```

```
repeat 2
  set cursor to busy
end repeat
stop using stack "XYZ"
put "Now compacting your Stack..."
repeat 17
  put " " before msg
end repeat
doMenu "Compact Stack"
wait 90
repeat 40
  put " " before msg
end repeat
wait 30
put "Compacting of your Stack was successful..."
repeat 12
  put " " before msg
end repeat
wait 2 seconds
repeat 60
  put " " before msg
end repeat
hide msg
end mouseUp
```

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